



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

**ELECTRONIC MAIL**  
**CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT EMAIL REQUESTED**

Mr. Marty Stewart  
EHS Manager  
Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc.  
1509 Van L Mungo Blvd  
Pageland, South Carolina 29728  
Marty.Stewart@aalberts-ips.com

SUBJ: Request for Information  
Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc.  
(fka Conbraco Industries, Inc.)  
EPA ID: SCR000006155

Dear Mr. Stewart:

On February 9, 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, along with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, conducted a compliance evaluation inspection (CEI) at Conbraco Industries, Inc. located in Pageland, South Carolina to determine the facility's compliance status with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Act (SCHMA), S.C. Code Ann. § 44-56-10 et seq. and applicable regulations.

Pursuant to Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927, Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. (fka Conbraco Industries, Inc.)<sup>1</sup> is hereby directed to respond fully and truthfully, within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this letter, to the Information Request enclosed herein as Enclosure C (subject to the Instructions in Enclosure A, and the Definitions in Enclosure B). Compliance with this request for information is mandatory, and information provided by Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. may be used by the EPA in future enforcement actions. Failure to respond fully and truthfully to each and every question or information request within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this letter, or to adequately justify such failure to respond, may result in further enforcement action against Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. by the EPA pursuant to Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928.

Your response to this request for information should be mailed to:

Araceli B. Chavez  
Chief  
RCRA Enforcement Section

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<sup>1</sup> As of April 1, 2021, Conbraco Industries, Inc. legally changed its name to Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, inc.

Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
61 Forsyth St., SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104  
Chavez.Araceli@epa.gov

The information requested herein must be provided notwithstanding its possible characterization as confidential information or trade secrets. Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. may, if desired, assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested, in the manner described in 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b), by attaching to such information, at the time it is submitted, a suitable notice employing language such as trade secret or proprietary or company confidential. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent and only by means of the procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the Public by the EPA without further notice to Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. The EPA will construe the failure to furnish a confidentiality claim with your response to this letter as a waiver of that claim. Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. should read the above-cited regulations carefully before asserting a business confidentiality claim, since certain categories of information are not properly the subject of such a claim. This Information Request is not subject to the approval requirement of the Paper Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq.

Should you have any questions on this matter, please contact Laurie Benton DiGaetano, of my staff, by phone at (404) 562-8948 or by email at benton-digaetano.laurie@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kimberly L. Bingham  
Chief  
Chemical Safety and Land Enforcement Branch

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE A  
INFORMATION REQUEST

Instructions:

1. Identify the person(s) responding to these Information Requests on behalf of Respondent.
2. A separate response must be made to each of the Information Requests set forth herein.
3. Precede each answer with the number of the Information Request to which it corresponds.
4. In answering each Information Request question, identify all documents and persons consulted, examined, or referred to in the preparation of each response and provide true and accurate copies of all such documents.
5. If information not known or not available to you as of the date of submission of a response to this Information Request should later become known or available to you, you must supplement your response to the EPA. Moreover, should you find at any time after the submission of its response that any portion of the submitted information is false or misrepresents the truth; you must notify the EPA thereof as soon as possible.
6. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the question to which it responds.
7. Where specific information has not been memorialized in a document, but is nonetheless responsive to the Request, you must respond to the question with a written response.
8. If information responsive to this Information Request is not in your possession, custody or control, then identify the person from whom such information may be obtained.
9. If you have reason to believe that there may be persons able to provide a detailed or complete response to any Information Request question or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, identify such persons and the additional information or documents that they may have.
10. The information requested herein must be provided even though the Respondent may contend that it includes possibly confidential information or trade secrets. You may, if you desire, assert a confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested, pursuant to Section 3007(b) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. Section 6927(b), Sections 104(e)(7)(E) and (F) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Sections 9604(e)(7)(E) and (F), and 40 C.F.R. Section 2.203(b), by attaching to such information at the time it is submitted, a cover sheet, stamped or typed legend, or other suitable form of notice employing language such as trade secret, or proprietary, or company confidential. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent, and only by means, of the procedures set forth in statutes and regulation set forth above. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the public by the EPA without further notice to you. You should read the above cited regulations carefully before asserting a business confidentiality claim, since certain categories of information are not properly the subject of such a claim.

ENCLOSURE B  
INFORMATION REQUEST

Definitions:

The following definitions shall apply to the following words as they appear in this Enclosure.

1. The terms AND and OR shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside their scope.
2. The term DISPOSAL shall mean the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, or placing of any solid waste or hazardous waste into or on any land or water so that such solid waste or hazardous waste or any constituent thereof may enter the environment or be emitted into the air or discharged into any water, including groundwater.
3. The term DOCUMENT and DOCUMENTS shall include writings of any kind, formal or informal, whether or not wholly or partially in handwriting (including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation), any invoice, receipt, endorsement, check, bank draft, canceled check, deposit slip, withdrawal slip, order, correspondence, record book, minutes, memorandum of telephone and other conversations including meetings, agreements and the like, diary calendar, desk pad, scrapbook, notebook, bulletin, circular, form, pamphlet, statement, journal, postcard, letter, telegram, telex, report, notice, message, analysis, comparison, graph, chart, inter-office or intra-office communications, photostat or other copy of any documents, microfilm or other film record, photograph, sound recording on any type of device, punch card, disc or disc pack, tape or other type of memory generally associated with computers and data processing (together with the programming instructions and other written material necessary to use punch card, disc, disc pack, tape or the type of memory) including; (a) every copy of each document which is not an exact duplicate of a document which is produced, (b) every copy which has any writing, figure, notation, annotation, or the like of it, (c) drafts, (d) attachments to or enclosures with any document, and (e) every document referred to in any other document.
4. The term FACILITY shall mean Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc. (fka Conbraco Industries, Inc.) located at 1509 Van L Mungo Blvd., Pageland, South Carolina.
5. The term GENERATION shall mean any act or process which produces hazardous waste as identified or listed in 40 C.F.R. Part 261 or an act which first causes a hazardous waste to become subject to regulation.
6. The term HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE means: (a) any substance designated pursuant to Section 311(b)(2)(A) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; (b) any element, compound, mixture, solution, or substance designated pursuant to Section 102 of CERCLA; (c) any hazardous waste having the characteristics identified under or listed pursuant to Section 3001 of RCRA (but not including any waste the regulation of which under RCRA has been suspended by Act of Congress); (d) any toxic pollutant listed under Section 307(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; (e) any hazardous air pollutant listed under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act; and (f) any imminently hazardous chemical substance or mixture with respect to which the Administrator of the EPA has taken action pursuant to Section 7 of the Toxic Substances Control Act. The term does not include petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof which is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under

## ENCLOSURE B

subparagraphs (a) through (f) of this paragraph, and the term does not include natural gas, natural gas liquids, liquefied natural gas, or synthetic gas usable for fuel (or mixtures of natural gas and such synthetic gas). HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE shall include any mixtures of such hazardous substances with any other substances including petroleum products.

7. The term HAZARDOUS WASTE means a hazardous waste as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 261.3.

8. The term IDENTIFY means, with respect to a natural person, to set forth the person's name, present or last known business address and business telephone number, present or last known home address and home telephone number, and present or last known job title, position or business.

9. The term IDENTIFY means, with respect to a corporation, partnership, business trust or other associate of a business entity (including a sole proprietorship), to set forth its full name, address, legal form (e.g., corporation, partnership, etc.), organization, if any, and a brief description of its business.

10. The term IDENTIFY means, with respect to a document, to provide its customary business description, date, number, if any (invoice or purchase order number), the identity of the author, addressor, addressee and/or recipient, and the substance or the subject matter.

11. The term PERSON includes, in the plural as well as the singular, any natural person, firm, unincorporated associate partnership, corporation, trust or other entity.

12. The term POLLUTANT or CONTAMINANT shall include, but not be limited to, any element, substance, compound or mixture, including disease-causing agents, which after release into the environment and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation, physiological malfunctions (including a malfunction in reproduction) or physical deformation in such organisms or their offspring; except that the term POLLUTANT or CONTAMINANT shall not include petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof which is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under subparagraphs (a) through (f) of Definition 5 above, and shall not include natural gas, liquefied natural gas, or synthetic gas of pipeline quality (or mixtures of natural gas and such synthetic gas). POLLUTANT or CONTAMINANT shall include any mixtures of such pollutant and contaminants with other substances, including petroleum products.

13. The term RELEASE shall include any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment, including the abandonment or discharging of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant.

14. The term TRANSACTION or ARRANGEMENT shall mean every separate agreement, act, deal, instance, or occurrence.

15. The term YOU or RESPONDENT shall mean the addressee of this Information Request, the addressee's officers, managers, employees, contractors, trustees, successors, assigns, and agents.

ENCLOSURE C  
INFORMATION REQUEST

Requests:

1. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, facility personnel identified three distinct Baghouse Systems: the Sand System, the Travel Vent System, and the Furnace System.
  - a. Please confirm if these systems are separate and distinct from one another.
  - b. Please identify each separate and distinct air handling system at the facility and describe which process units or areas are connected to each air handling system.
  - c. Please identify which air handling system(s) feed each of the three Baghouse systems (i.e. Sand System, Travel Vent System, Furnace System).
2. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, facility personnel explained that every supersack container of baghouse dust generated in the Sand System Baghouse is sampled and analyzed using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) to determine if the material exhibits a hazardous waste characteristic. In Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems Americas, Inc.'s (Aalberts') written response dated April 2, 2021, Aalberts stated that this material is currently managed as hazardous waste from the point of generation. It is not clear if this statement means that the facility is managing the material as a hazardous waste from the point of generation while the TCLP analyses are performed, or if it means that the facility is now managing the material as a hazardous waste from the point of generation until it is shipped off-site without performing a TCLP analysis on each container.
  - a. Please describe the hazardous waste determination procedures, including the sampling protocols and frequency, for baghouse dust generated at the Sand System Baghouse, the Travel Vent System Baghouse, and the Furnace System Baghouse prior the February 9, 2021 inspection.
  - b. Please describe the current hazardous waste determination procedures, including any applicable sampling protocols and frequency, for baghouse dust generated at the Sand System Baghouse, the Travel Vent System Baghouse, and the Furnace System Baghouse.
  - c. Please provide records, including TCLP results, of hazardous waste determinations for baghouse dust generated since February 9, 2018.
3. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, facility personnel stated that the facility is selling baghouse dust generated in the Furnace System Baghouse to customers as a zinc material. This furnace ash baghouse dust is a "sludge," as defined by 40 C.F.R. 260.10, because it is generated in an air pollution control facility. The customers' use of the furnace ash baghouse dust must be known in order to determine if the material is a solid waste pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 261.2(c)(1).
  - a. Are customers using the furnace ash baghouse dust "as-is" as an ingredient to make a product? What product(s) are customers making by using the furnace ash baghouse dust as-is?
  - b. Are customers processing the furnace ash baghouse dust to recover a usable product? What material is reclaimed from the furnace ash baghouse dust? What product(s) are made from the reclaimed material?
  - c. Has the furnace ash baghouse dust been sampled and analyzed to determine if the material exhibits a hazardous waste characteristic? If so, please provide records of this sampling and analysis.
4. The terms "Ball Mill" and "Reclaim Room" were introduced during the February 9, 2021 inspection. Are these terms used to describe the same area or two different areas?
  - a. Please identify each material input that is processed in the Ball Mill and in the Reclaim Room and identify where each material input is generated.

## ENCLOSURE C

- b. Please describe how each material input is managed from the point of generation until it is processed in the Ball Mill and in the Reclaim Room (i.e. container types, labels, and management).
  - c. Please describe the material processing procedures that occur in the Ball Mill and in the Reclaim Room.
  - d. Please identify each material output from the Ball Mill and from the Reclaim Room and identify how each material output is used onsite or offsite or is managed onsite and disposed of offsite.
  - e. Please describe how each material output is managed in the Ball Mill and in the Reclaim Room and after leaving the Ball Mill and Reclaim Room (i.e. container types, labels, and management),
5. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, several 55-gallon drums were observed in the right-hand corner inside the Reclaim Room. In Aalberts' written response dated April 24, 2021, Aalberts stated that the drums and containers that were not or did not contain hazardous waste were removed or given labels to indicate the contents of the container. Please provide an inventory of the drums observed during the inspection and their contents.
6. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, three 55-gallon drums were observed at the Outside Grinding Wheelabrator area. In Aalberts' written response dated April 24, 2021, Aalberts stated that these drums contain carbon steel and brass fines that are sold in the metal recycling market. Please provide records to document these shipments during the past three years.
7. During the inspection on February 9, 2021, two 55-gallon drums were observed next to the Grinding Wheelabrator Baghouse. The drums appeared to contain metals, shot blast media and sand. In Aalberts' written response dated April 24, 2021, Aalberts stated that the material in these drums is not hazardous waste, it is material that is placed back into the Grinding Wheelabrator for reuse. Please confirm whether this material is placed directly back into the Grinding Wheelabrator without any type of processing or separation. If the material requires processing or separation before it is placed into the Grinding Wheelabrator, please describe those processing or separation activities.
8. Please send records of shipments for universal waste during the past three years.
9. Please provide an LDR for the shipments of D018 hazardous waste Martron Martex that were sent to DART (NCD121700777).